

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of coating a reconfigurable medical implant comprising:
 - placing a reconfigurable medical implant into a rotatable drum having a plurality of orifices in a wall;
 - tumbling the medical implant by rotating the drum about a longitudinal axis of the drum;
 - injecting a compressible fluid into the drum with a force sufficient to have the compressible fluid maintain the medical implant aloft in the drum, the medical implant being free to strike at least the bottom or wall of the drum;
 - ~~placing therapeutic into the drum by moving the therapeutic through a channel positioned in the drum;~~ and
 - interfacing the therapeutic with the tumbling medical implant.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising: drying the therapeutic on the medical implant.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein drying the therapeutic on the medical implant includes spraying an inert gas into the drum.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the drum has a stellate cross-section. ~~further comprising: suspending the medical implants above an internal surface of the drum.~~
5. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a coating to a reconfigurable medical implant comprising:
 - providing a pan coater, the pan coater including a drum having a bottom and a wall;
 - placing a reconfigurable medical implant in the drum of the pan coater, the medical implant having a masking material on at least one of its surfaces, the medical implant free to strike at least the bottom or wall of the drum;
 - rotating the drum about an axis to tumble the medical implant, the drum containing a plurality of orifices in the wall;

injecting a compressible fluid into the drum with a force sufficient to have the compressible fluid maintain the medical implant aloft in the drum, the medical implant being free to strike at least the bottom or wall of the drum;

spraying a therapeutic into the drum to coat the medical implant; and
removing the medical implant from the drum.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
collecting therapeutic in a therapeutic recovery reservoir fluidly attached to the drum.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a coating to a medical implant comprising:

providing a pan coater, the pan coater including a drum having a bottom and a wall;
placing a reconfigurable medical implant in the drum of the pan coater;
rotating the drum about an axis, to tumble the medical implant, the drum containing a plurality of orifices in the wall;

spraying a therapeutic into the drum to coat the medical implant;
injecting a compressible fluid into the drum with a force sufficient to have the compressible fluid maintain the medical implant aloft in the drum, the medical implant being free to strike at least the bottom or wall of the drum;

forcing a compressible fluid from a compressible fluid source into the drum to dry the therapeutic;

re-circulating the compressible fluid in the drum; and
waiting until the therapeutic on the medical implant is dry before removing the medical implant from the drum.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein spraying the therapeutic into the drum is repeated at least once.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a coating to a medical implant comprising:

providing a pan coater, the pan coater including a drum having a bottom and a wall;
placing a reconfigurable medical implant in the drum of the pan coater;

rotating the drum about an axis, to tumble the medical implant, the drum containing a plurality of orifices in the wall;

spraying a therapeutic into the drum to coat the medical implant;

injecting a compressible fluid into the drum with a force sufficient to have the compressible fluid maintain the medical implant aloft in the drum, the medical implant being free to strike at least the bottom or wall of the drum;

forcing a heated compressible fluid from a compressible fluid source into the drum;

re-circulating the heated compressible fluid in the drum; and

waiting until the therapeutic on the medical implant is dry before removing the medical implant from the drum; ~~and~~

~~heating the compressible fluid in the compressible fluid source prior to forcing the compressible fluid into the drum.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the heated compressible fluid in the compressible fluid source is heated to a temperature in the range of 20 to 70 degrees centigrade.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the heated compressible fluid in the compressible fluid source is heated to a temperature associated with a working temperature of the therapeutic.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a coating to a reconfigurable medical implant comprising:

providing a pan coater, the pan coater including a drum having a bottom and a wall;

placing a reconfigurable medical implant in the drum of the pan coater;

rotating the drum about an axis to tumble the medical implant, the drum containing a plurality of orifices in the wall;

spraying a therapeutic into the drum to coat the medical implant;

drawing a compressible fluid into the drum; and

removing the medical implant from the drum.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a coating to a reconfigurable medical implant comprising:
- providing a pan coater, the pan coater including a drum having a bottom and a wall;
 - placing a reconfigurable medical implant in the drum of the pan coater;
 - rotating the drum about an axis to tumble the medical implant, the drum containing a plurality of orifices in the wall;
 - spraying a therapeutic into the drum to coat the medical implant;
 - heating a compressible fluid being injected into the drum;
 - heating the rotatable drum after spraying the therapeutic into the drum; and
 - removing the medical implant from the drum.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the pan coater is provided with a compressible fluid suspension system that ~~forces a~~ injects the compressible fluid into the drum with a force sufficient to maintain the medical implant aloft in the drum.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the compressible fluid suspension system uses an inert gas to maintain the medical implants aloft.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising: periodically activating the compressible fluid suspension system while coating the reconfigurable workpiece.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
- passing therapeutic through the orifices; and
 - passing compressible fluid through the orifices.
19. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a coating to a medical implant comprising:
- providing a pan coater, the pan coater including a drum having a bottom and a wall;

placing a reconfigurable medical implant in the drum of the pan coater;
rotating the drum about an axis, to tumble the medical implant, the drum containing a plurality of orifices in the wall;
injecting a compressible fluid into the drum with a force sufficient to have the compressible fluid maintain the medical implant aloft in the drum, the medical implant being free to strike at least the bottom or wall of the drum;
spraying a first therapeutic into the drum to coat the medical implant;
spraying a second therapeutic into the drum after spraying the first therapeutic into the drum, the second therapeutic different from the first therapeutic;
recycling therapeutic that did not adhere to the implant during spraying.

20-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method for applying a coating to a medical implant comprising:

providing a pan coater, the pan coater including a drum rotatable about a longitudinal axis having a wall and a bottom, the wall having a plurality of orifices;
placing a reconfigurable medical implant in the drum of the pan coater;
injecting a compressible fluid into the drum with a force sufficient to maintain the medical implant aloft in the drum to tumble the medical implant, the medical implant being free to strike at least the bottom or wall of the drum;
spraying a therapeutic into the drum to coat the medical implant; and
removing the medical implant from the drum.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the compressible fluid is an inert gas.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the compressible fluid is also for drying the therapeutic on the medical implant.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the compressible fluid is periodically injected into the drum.

29. (Withdrawn) A method of coating a medical implant comprising:
placing a reconfigurable medical implant into a rotatable drum;
tumbling the medical implant by rotating the drum about a longitudinal axis of the drum;
placing therapeutic into the drum by moving the therapeutic through a plurality of orifices positioned on the drum; and
interfacing the therapeutic with the tumbling medical implant
wherein interfacing the therapeutic with the tumbling implant includes tumbling the implant into a vat of therapeutic.
30. (Canceled)
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the reconfigurable medical implant is a stent.
32. (Canceled)
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the reconfigurable medical implant is a stent.
34. (Canceled)
35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the reconfigurable medical implant is a stent.
36. (Canceled)
37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the reconfigurable medical implant is a stent.

- 38. (Canceled)
- 39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the reconfigurable medical implant is a stent.
- 40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5 wherein the therapeutic is sprayed into the drum through at least one nozzle positioned on the wall of the drum.
- 41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 40 wherein the nozzle is controlled by a processor having storage media.
- 42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5 wherein the therapeutic is sprayed into the drum through at least one nozzle positioned on the bottom of the drum.
- 43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 42 wherein the nozzle is controlled by a processor having storage media.
- 44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6 wherein the therapeutic recovery reservoir is connected to the drum via a dual use channel and the dual use channel is also connected to a compressible fluid source.
- 45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5 wherein the drum has a removable lid.